

some of the answers: (1) Bishop of Llandaff: Infidelity, Anarchy. (2) The Bishop of Gloucester: Self-advertising vanity. (3) Archbishop of Canterbury: I have not the slightest idea. (4) Mr. William Watson: Greed. (5) Bishop of Hereford: Evil desire and covetousness. (6) Dean Farrar: The chief social danger is the dominance of drink. The chief political danger is our apathetic laxity in facing serious problems. (7) Bishop of Raphoe, Dr. O'Donnel: Mutilated education; that is, education without religion. (8) Rev. H. Adler, Chief Rabbi: The recrudescence of racial antipathies and national animosities. (9) General Booth: I am of opinion that the chief dangers which confront the coming century will be religion without the Holy Ghost, Christianity without Christ, forgiveness without repentance, salvation without regeneration, politics without God, and heaven without hell. (10) The Rev. Joseph Parker, of the City Temple: If our spirit is not right, our plans and purposes will end in confusion. If our heart is all right all questions of frame-work and apparatus will almost settle themselves. Do not treat this as commonplace, other than truth and love and childheartedness are commonplace. (11) Ian Maclaren: I think the great political danger in the beginning of the new century will be the collision of the western powers in the East; and the chief social danger will be anarchy among the masses of the people at the basis of our modern society. May I add that, in my opinion, the safeguard against both perils is the application of the Sermon on the Mount to the life alike of nations and of individuals? (12) John Rys, M. A., Principal of Jesus College, Oxon: The widespread materialism which is evidenced by the growing influence of mere money, the insane hurry of individuals and nations to grab, the gradual installation of crass athleticism in the place of what once claimed to be "true religion and sound learning," and the reflex action which steadily impels men of a certain type of mind to seek refuge in mediævalism and the abnegation of intellectual independence.

Of the twelve men whose answers are herewith published who is right? That each one answered wisely is not to be questioned; that some answered more wisely than others is equally true; each answer sets forth a real danger, and yet it seems to us that one of the twelve answered most wisely, Archbishop of Canterbury, "I have not the slightest idea." It must not be taken for granted that this learned man has given no thought to the great problems, social and political, of the day, but that with becoming humility, amid the confusion and uncertainty and changeability which accompany these problems in their transition from one generation to another, the pious and learned bishop is willing to acknowledge his ignorance of what dangers, social and political, will confront the new century.

### A Rising Tide

The New York State Prison Commission reports an alarming increase of drunkenness. It is not pleasant to contemplate that spite of all religious and reformatory effort, this vice of all vices, this immense suppuration in the vitals of society, should not only not be checked, but on the contrary exhibit unmistakable proof that in at least some large communities it is on the increase. This increase in drunkenness

we believe to be confined to certain localities only, and that on the whole the tendency is in the opposite direction, yet it must be admitted even by the most optimistic that the situation at present is not such that any one is likely to go into raptures over it, for the ruin this liquor business continues to work is truly appalling. Attention is called by the Commission to the suffering entailed upon the family of the drunkard, and upon this fact is based a proposition to treat drunkenness as a disease, and confine its victim to an asylum until cured. Nothing under the heavens nor in all history is comparable to the sufferings of the drunkard's wife and children, yet modern society toughens up its hide so as to be as insensible as possible to these helpless and hopeless people. Their misery appeals to a few tender hearted people who for their sakes take the risk of being set down as cranks, and who labor in such ways as they can to stem the vast tides of drunkenness. As long as the saloon business is profitable to individuals and to the State, conscience will be warned not to meddle with it. The king of Sweden and Norway is said to be a very devout Christian, but his majesty has made an immense fortune in the brewing and distilling business. What are we to hope for when a cultured gentleman, a ruler of two kingdoms, and a devout Christian withal, can complacently pocket the profits of this iniquitous business? If it doesn't indicate a leather conscience, then we admit our inability to distinguish the difference between black and white. It indicates not only an alarming degree of toughness and petrification in the moral sense of the individual concerned, but also in the moral elements of the community. A Christian should ask himself how he feels toward this institution. And some day when he happens to stand at the open door of a typical saloon, with its beastly coarseness, its filthiness, its horrid blasphemies, let him ask himself how Christ would feel toward it, and by this thought gage his own moral sensitiveness to abomination and iniquity.

### The Inauguration

Vast crowds and brilliant pageantry attended the inauguration ceremonies in Washington last week, when President McKinley was sworn to obey the Constitution for another four years. All devout people and well wishers of their country will pray earnestly for God's blessing upon his forthcoming administration, hoping also that peace and not war will attend the coming years. It is a great and responsible office, and a great day when its distinguished incumbent enters upon it. No less is it a great day when any man enters upon the work to which God's providence has called him, however humble that work may be. For it seems to be a part of the divine order that out of the humblest beginnings grows the mightiest results. A word fitly spoken, an influence rightly exerted, a duty well done, may change the whole course of events for nations and for centuries. All sincere men should do the task God has set them as if upon the doing of it depended the fate or the happiness, the weal or the woe of a world. God looks at the quality of the action, and not at the height of the pedestal upon which it is performed. In His sight it is just as honorable to do well the humblest service as to rule well the mightiest nation. Do not imagine that your obscure station hides you